Claims 1 to 32 were pending in the above-identified application. The Examiner rejected claims 1 to 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,819,217 ("Mahoney et al."). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite:

> 1.   A method for file sharing over a first network, comprising:
>
> . . .
>
>> creating a temporary directory on the second computer, wherein the temporary directory has at least a partially random directory name;
>>
>> . . .
>>
>> creating a link in the temporary directory on the second computer if the user is permitted access, wherein the link points to the first file on the third computer;
>>
>> creating a web page description including an URL comprising a path to the first file in the temporary directory on the second computer;
>>
>> . . .
>>
>> deleting the temporary directory on the second computer.

Mahoney et al. does not disclose or suggest creating a temporary directory with a random directory name, creating a link to a file in the temporary directory, and deleting the temporary directory as recited in claim 1. These actions make it difficult for anyone to gain access to a file without authorization. First, the unauthorized user has to guess the random directory name. Second, the unauthorized user has to guess the random directory name before the temporary directory and the link therein are deleted.

Addressing now-cancelled claim 5, the Examiner suggested that Mahoney et al. discloses creating a temporary directory and creating a link to a file in the temporary directory.

> As per claims 5-6 and 18-19, Mahoney substantially teaches a method as claimed, further comprises a directory having a directory name comprising at least partially of a random string on the second computer subsequent to

authenticating the identity of the user and prior to receiving the request for the first file, wherein creating the link on the second computer comprises saving the link in the directory (thus, when the user initially accesses the web server the user is required to provide a user identification code 'ID' and a password the web server submits a login request to the CGI program to verify that no other user is using the same ID; which is readable as a directory having a directory name comprising at least partially of a random string on the second computer subsequent to authenticating the identity of the user and prior to receiving the request for the first file, wherein creating the link on the second computer comprises saving the link in the directory) (see col. 6, lines 36-40).

Office Action of 6/7/02, p. 6, first full paragraph.

Mahoney et al. at col. 6, lines 36-40, states:

When the user initially accesses the web server, the user is required to provide a user identification code ("Id") and a password. The web server submits a login request to the CGI program to verify that no other use is using the same ID.

The above-quoted text shows that Mahoney et al. at col. 6, lines 36-40 does not disclose or suggest creating a temporary directory with a random directory name or creating a link to a file in such a temporary directory. Instead, Mahoney et al. at col. 6, lines 36-40 only discloses a login process using a CGI program.

Addressing now cancelled claim 7, the Examiner suggested that Mahoney et al. discloses deleting the temporary directory.

As per claims 7 and 20, Mahoney substantially teaches a method as claimed, further comprises the steps of deleting the directory after transmitting the web page description (see col. 7, lines 24-30).

Office Action of 6/7/02, p. 6, second full paragraph.

Mahoney et al. at col. 7, lines 24-30 states:

Typically, the contributor workstations are used by brokerage firms to submit research reports and corporations to submit items of corporate information. According to the representative embodiment of the present invention, the information received from the contributor workstations are files comprising one or more documents. These documents typically would contain text, data, charts, graphs, spreadsheets and the like, or combinations thereof, and may be in many formats.

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The above-quoted text shows that Mahoney et al. at col. 7, lines 24-30 does not disclose or suggest deleting a temporary directory. Instead, Mahoney et al. at col. 7, lines 24-30 discloses the submission of various documents of corporate information by the use of contributor workstations.

Thus, claim 1 is patentable over Mahoney et al. because the reference does not disclose or suggest all of the elements of amended claim 1.

Claims 2, 3, 6, 8-13 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Applicants have cancelled claims 4, 5, 7, and 14 to 32 without prejudice or disclaimer.

For the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Applicants have added claims 33 to 43. Independent claim 33 recites:

> 33.   A method for a web server to provide a file from a file server to a client computer, wherein the web server and the client computer are connected by a first network, and the web server and the file server are connected by a second network, the method comprising:
>
> > . . .
>
> > creating a temporary directory on the web server, wherein the temporary directory has at least a partially random directory name;
>
> > . . .
>
> > creating a link in the temporary folder on the web server, wherein the link points to the file on the file server;
>
> > creating an URL comprising a path to the file in the temporary directory on the web server;
>
> > . . .
>
> > deleting the temporary directory on the web server.

As discussed above, Mahoney et al. does not disclose or suggest creating a temporary directory with a random directory name, creating a link to a file in the temporary directory, and deleting the temporary directory. Thus, claim 33 is patentable over Mahoney et al.

Claims 34 to 43 depend from claim 33 and are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 33.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**."

CONCLUSION

In summary, claims 1 to 32 were pending in the above-identified application. This response amends claims 1, 6, 8 to 11, cancels claims 4, 5, 7, and 14 to 32, and adds claims 33 to 43. For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 1, 6, 8 to 13, and 33 to 43. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (408)382-0480x206.

Respectfully submitted,

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In the specification:

Paragraph on page 7, line 16, to page 8, line 9, has been amended as follows:

In one example, servlet 112 detects a request for file 157 when the user on client computer 8I selects a hypertext link to file 157 on an HTML page provided to client computer 8I. An exemplary HTML code for a hypertext link to file 157 on an HTML page is:

```
<a href = "http://www.photoisland.com/servlet/servlet112? file_name=
file157">File 157</a>.
```

Alternatively, an exemplary code for a hypertext link to file 157 encompassing an image instead of a text is:

```
<a href = "http://www.photoisland.com/servlet/servlet112? file_name=
file157"><img src = http://photoisland.com/photos/ default.jpg"></a>.
```

Servlet 112 generates the above hypertext links in an HTML page provided to client computer 8I. To generate the above hypertext links, servlet 112 uses the user ID (previously saved as a session object) to query database 174 for a list of files which the user has permission to access. After determining the files the user has permission to access, servlet 112 constructs the above hypertext links with the file IDs of these files. When the user selects either of the above links, client computer 8I transmits a file name (e.g., "file157") to servlet 112 and calls for servlet 112 to execute and return the file (e.g., file 157). Co-filed U.S. Patent Application [No. UNKNOWN] 09/545,366, Attorney Docket No. [M-8326 US] ARC-P114, entitled "Dynamic Web Page Authoring and Generation Using Static Templates" describes one method to create the above hypertext links in an HTML page.

Paragraph on page 9, line 4, to page 9, line 11, has been amended as follows:

In action 414, servlet 112 creates HTML page 158 (FIG. 2B) including a hypertext link to link 151 with the following HTML codes:

```
<img src= "http://www.photoisland.com/dir114/file157.jpg">.
```

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In the implementation where OS 110 is <u>Windows</u> NT, a filter 120 (FIG. 2B) enables a server application 119 (FIG. 2B) of web server 10J to read the text link and retrieve file 157 from file server 14K according to the file path contained in the text link. Server application 119 is, for example, Microsoft® Internet Information Server (IIS). Filter 120 is described later in reference to FIG. 4. Action 414 is followed by action 416.

<u>In the claims</u>

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for file sharing over a <u>first</u> network, comprising:

   <u>authenticating a user on a first computer connected to a second computer by the first network;</u>

   <u>creating a temporary directory on the second computer, wherein the temporary directory has at least a partially random directory name;</u>

   receiving a request for a first file from <u>the user on the</u> [a] first computer to [a] <u>the</u> second computer [via the network], wherein the first file is on a third computer <u>connected to the second computer by a second network;</u>

   determining whether [a] <u>the</u> user [of] <u>on</u> the first computer is permitted access to the first file;

   creating a link <u>in the temporary directory</u> on the second computer [to the first file in response to the request for the first file] if the user is permitted access<u>, wherein the link points to the first file on the third computer;</u>

   creating a web page description including an URL <u>comprising a path to the first file in the temporary directory on the second computer</u> [to the link]; [and]

   transmitting the web page description to the first computer via the <u>first</u> network<u>, and</u>

   <u>deleting the temporary directory on the second computer.</u>

Please cancel claims 4 to 5 without prejudice or disclaimer.

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Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6.   (Amended) The method of Claim [5] 1, further comprising creating a random session identification for the [client] user on the first computer subsequent to said authenticating [the identity of the] a user and prior to said creating [the] a temporary directory, wherein the at least partially random directory name comprises at least partially of the session identification.

Please cancel claim 7 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 8 to 11 as follows:

8.   (Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

          determining if a [first] second directory on the third computer has reached a
          predetermined capacity; and

          if the [first] second directory has reached the predetermined capacity, creating
          on the third computer a [second] third directory with a [second] third directory
          name that is sequentially incremented from a [first] second directory name of
          the [first] second directory.

9.   (Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the acts of:

          searching for a [first] second directory on the third computer that was last
          backed up and a [second] third directory that was most recently created; and

          backing up all directories on the third computer having directory names
          sequentially between a [first] second directory name of the [first] second
          directory and a [second] third directory name of the [second] third directory.

10.   (Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising backing up a second directory on the third computer that was previously backed up if the number of files currently in the second directory is substantially less than the original number of files in the second directory.

11.   (Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the number of files currently in the second directory is substantially less than the original number of files in the second directory if the ratio of the number of files currently in the second directory to the original number of files in the second directory is less than a predetermined amount.

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Please cancel claims 14 to 32 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add claims 33 to 43.

--33.   (New) A method for a web server to provide a file from a file server to a client computer, wherein the web server and the client computer are connected by a first network, and the web server and the file server are connected by a second network, the method comprising:

> authenticating a user on the client computer;

> creating a temporary directory on the web server, wherein the temporary directory has at least a partially random directory name;

> receiving a request for the file from the user on the client computer to the web server, wherein the file is located on the file server;

> creating a link in the temporary folder on the web server, wherein the link points to the file on the file server;

> creating an URL comprising a path to the file in the temporary directory on the web server;

> transmitting the URL to the client; and

> deleting the temporary directory on the web server.

34.   (New) The method of Claim 33, wherein the link is a Unix symbolic link.

35.   (New) The method of Claim 33, wherein the link is a text file containing another path to the file on the third computer.

36.   (New) The method of Claim 33, further comprising determining whether the user has access to the file subsequent to said receiving a request and prior to said creating a link.

37.   (New) The method of Claim 33, further comprising creating a random session identification for the user on the client computer subsequent to said authenticating a user and prior to said creating a temporary directory, wherein said at least partially directory name comprises at least partially of the session identification.

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38.   (New) The method of Claim 33, further comprising:

> determining if a first directory on the file server has reached a predetermined capacity; and

> if the first directory has reached the predetermined capacity, creating on the file server a second directory with a second directory name that is sequentially incremented from a first directory name of the first directory.

39.   (New) The method of Claim 33, further comprising the acts of:

> searching for a first directory on the file server that was last backed up and a second directory that was most recently created; and

> backing up all directories on the file server having directory names sequentially between a first directory name of the first directory and a second directory name of the second directory.

40.   (New) The method of Claim 33, further comprising backing up another directory on the file server that was previously backed up if the number of files currently in said another directory is substantially less than the original number of files in said another directory.

41.   (New) The method of Claim 40, wherein the number of files currently in said another directory is substantially less than the original number of files in said another directory if the ratio of the number of files currently in said another directory to the original number of files in said another directory is less than a predetermined amount.

42.   (New) The method of Claim 33, further comprising:

> receiving another file from the client computer to the web server; and

> moving said another file to the file server.

43.   (New) The method of Claim 42, further comprising saving said another file in the file server computer with a file name that is sequentially incremented from a file name of yet another file that was previously saved in the file server.--